

FARM NEWS ITEMS.

Those who have tried it say that common axle grease, provided it is not of the salty kind, is a good rust preventive for agricultural implements and tools, being equal to a coat of varnish.

Should the calf not seem to thrive give a half pint of wheat bran with a pinch of salt, scalded with a teacupful of water. Give this with the usual amount of milk, and always keep some corn, oats and hay, with pure water handy.

It's a good plan to stretch out on the lounge or the grass at noon and take a nap. If it is only five or 15 minutes it will count big in the day's work. Let your neighbor rush out to the field if he chooses; you will beat him on the season's work by taking care of your strength.

The Pennsylvania Experiment Station has discovered that rye meal as a part of a properly balanced ration for milk cows is as efficient in milk and butter production as an equal weight of cornmeal. No injurious effect upon the quality of the butter was noticed.

For rheumatism in horses a farmer writes that the following is an excellent remedy: Dissolve two drms of carbonate potash in a pint of water and mix it with the feed two or three times a day until the animal gets well. Apply equal parts of alcohol and water to affected joints twice a day.

The pad will make a big collar fit a little better, but the best plan is to have a collar that fits without a pad. The latter is apt to irritate and chafe a horse much more than a leather collar. If the harness are properly adjusted on the collar many horses may be saved sore necks and sore shoulders.

August is the time to look for borers. Dig the soil away around the stems of fruit trees to the depth of three inches, scrape the bark with a knife, and if any sawdust or exuding gum is found it is time to get to work. Dig out the borers and wash the uncovered parts with a mixture of soft cow dung, lime, wood ashes and a little crude carbolic acid. Then return the soil. The quince, dwarf, pear and peach trees are particularly affected by this pest.

I have tried canning cabbage and they were so nice that I send my plan, as some of my friends will want to try it. We didn't care for kraut, and we were more than pleased with them canned.

Clean cabbage, wash break up fine and cover with hot water. Cook forty minutes or more if necessary. Then salt as for use, put one teaspoonful of salicylic acid to each half gallon and seal. I use either glass or tin cans.

When I want to put them on the table I cook my meat and about 15 or 20 minutes before dinner I put my cabbage in with the meat to be seasoned. That is all they require, as they are already cooked.

Mrs. Retta Thompson.

The disk harrow is a tool that is almost indispensable on an up-to-date farm. For working land that is infested with weeds that spread from their root systems, the disk harrow is the only harrow that should be used. It cuts the roots where they lie and does not drag them from one part of the field to another. With plenty of horse power it will do the work

of the plow on some kinds of soil, especially in fruit orchards, where a plow is liable to tear up large roots and start suckers to growing up, where the root is cut.

Good roads cannot be secured without the co-operation of the farmer in maintaining them after they are once properly constructed under the supervision of the County Court. They need as much attention as the corn or tobacco crop, and the farmer is personally interested in their maintenance after they are once put in proper condition. It has become a custom to look at the road proposition as a necessary evil, a utility that no one has a part in but the County Judge, the Magistrate and the district supervisor or overseer, and that no one has a voice in the matter of keeping them up but these officers. The farmers are interested in the matter of good roads individually as well as collectively, and without their earnest co-operation they need not expect a better condition than now exists.

An earnest united effort will soon bring about a better condition, and with this condition comes the enhancement of the value of the farm and city property. From a n economic standpoint, less wear and horse-flesh and twice the amount hauled at one load, easy access to markets at all seasons and under all conditions Lawrence county has an abundance of material with which to build good roads all over the county, and it is up to the present generation to issue bonds and do its work. Get good roads and enjoy them while you live. If they cannot be paid out during your life time, you will help your children and grandchildren to good highways and better resources to meet a bounded indebtedness.

Why not become a poultry fancier? The farmer is busy and has many excuses, but the methods of raising poultry as practiced by the average farmer, will have to undergo many reforms before he can make a success of any kind of poultry raising. He must get those young chickens down out of the trees and put them under shelter, clean out that filthy chicken house and keep cleaning it out at least once a week; and get rid of those mites. White wash the poultry house and put in panes of glass where they are out and feed the chickens winter rations. He must take some pride in the condition of the poultry plant and make a cozy and warm home for biddie during the cold months.

It don't cost a cent more to keep a standard bred fowl than a common barn yard fowl, while a flock of fowls all of one color and near one size, help to beautify the place.

It may cost a little more to buy blooded stock, at first, but eggs for hatching purposes may be sold to advantage, and surplus stock at much in advance of the market price.

We cannot do this unless we get good birds to start with. The best are the cheapest in the end. We must not be afraid to pay a good price, then we will be able to ask for good prices for stock, etc.

Beware of fakers for there are many in the poultry business. You can get a standard perfection for \$1.50 by writing to any poultry journal. Do so at once. Dirt cheap. Subscribe for a local poultry journal or two. Go to a local poultry show or so, and if you have any pride you will go home and begin to kill those barn yard fowls. It is a disgrace to the 20th century the way farmers pretend to raise poultry.

Every person who makes a sor-

ghum syrup knows that some taken off the boiling juice was originally imparted in the cane juice. But few people think of the amount unavoidably left in the finished product.

The Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, has made experiments to determine methods of making a better article than is made by the ordinary boiling and skimming. All the information is given in Farmers' Bulletin No. 135, and in Bureau of Chemistry Circular No. 1.

The writer made a simple experiment in 1907, while making syrup in the common way, by boiling in a wooden vat with galvanized sheet-iron bottom.

Two lots of common red clay, one a little redder than the other, were used. It was carefully crumbled up, and all gravel and other objectionable matters were removed. After being made into a soft batter small quantities were placed in bottles, and a pint or less of juice taken from the vat just before the boiling point was reached was poured into each bottle and thoroughly shaken.

In a few minutes the clay settled and carried down with it a great deal of the impurities, leaving the juice much clearer. The lighter colored clay seemed to clear the juice better, and didn't seem to stain it, as did the redder clay.

The last vat of juice was skimmed just before the boiling point was reached and poured off into tubs. Thin clay mud of the lighter color was immediately poured into the tubs, at the rate of one gallon to twenty gallons of hot juice, and thoroughly stirred. In about one hour and a half this had settled every well; but in pouring off the juice some sediment was disturbed and mixed up with the juice, but in cooking practically all this came out in skimming. This syrup was entirely different from all the rest, in color and clearness, and especially in flavor. It also seems to keep better. This is only a small part of the process described by the Bureau of Chemistry in the above mentioned publications.

Sorghum syrup is so common an article of food on the farm that more care and attention could no doubt, be profitably given its manufacture.

I have had quite a long "say" on gentle bulls, the most dangerous of all because you trust them so they catch you unawares. One of the best safeguards against the crazy bull is to take his horns off close to the head if he comes to you with them on. I have rarely spent a night at a breeder's that there was not an exciting story to tell of someone's narrow escape or death from a vicious bull.

A few years ago men were fined for dehorning cattle, but as the time passes the class of fanatics who oppose this simple safeguard grows less until you rarely see a bunch of steers that the large majority of them are not dehorned. So far as I can see the process of sawing horns off is harmless, if done with reasonable intelligence, for the horn was made to fight with and not at all sensitive. But on breeding farm where calves are raised why not take the matter in hand at the proper moment when the calf is but two weeks old and the horn is button is just making its appearance. Get you a stick of lime caustic, or caustic potash, as it is sometime called, for 5 cents. Be careful, in using it, not to get any of it on your finger or about your face. Proceed carefully by first tying the calf firmly to a fence post. Then with a pair of scissors clip the hair from around the button until you can plainly see and feel the tip of the button. Now with a cup of water dip the end of the finger in and wet the button and no more of the head or you will make a botched job of it, resulting in a large sore. With dry fingers prepare the caustic by wrapping a rag around one end of it to hold the pencil by, then dip the pencil in the water and carefully rub the button until the flesh looks red; then stop and leave the calf until she is dry, to keep other calves from licking it. The only danger to the calf is in your overdoing it by getting too much water on the calf's head and letting the dissolved caustic run down the calf's head. If you put too little on you can put on more at another time, so it is best to err on the safe side. In most cases you had better get your wife to read the instructions and perform the operation.

Before the pure food bill became a law the greed for gain among many of our merchants and manufacturers was so great that they deemed it necessary to adulterate food, so as to be able to compete with other adulterators. The law now compels the true labelling of all articles of food consequently, the consumer must pay heed to the labels if he desires to be benefited.

Coal tar coloring matter is prohibited. The new law, however, allows innocent vegetable coloring matter. It is singular that any person should de-

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